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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

1981 session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 46th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 17 February 1981, at 3 p.m.

Temporary Chairman: Mr. SUY (Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. Mr. SUY (Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel), speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General, declared open the 1981 session of the Special Committee. The Committee had before it, as usual, a number of important questions affecting fundamental aspects of international life, including the maintenance of international peace and security which would have to be given priority in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/164. Furthermore, the Committee would be called upon to consider proposals made by Member States on the rationalization of existing procedures within the Organization and to continue work on the Manila draft declaration on the peaceful settlement of disputes, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

2. The importance of the Committee's work was apparent from its very title, and had been highlighted by the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the last session of the General Assembly. In renewing the mandate of the Committee, the General Assembly had not only shown the importance it attached to its work but had reaffirmed its confidence in the Committee's ability to conduct its work in a constructive manner.

3. Lastly, he pointed out that the Secretariat had so far received no replies to the invitation contained in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 35/164 or to that contained in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 35/160.

4. It was evident from consultations held with the representatives of various groups that delegations would need additional time to settle the question of the membership of the Bureau. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the members of the Committee wished to adjourn the meeting so as to continue consultations with a view to reaching agreement on that matter.

5. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 3.35 p.m.